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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A driveshaft comprising two constant velocity universal joints and an intermediate shaft;

one of the constant velocity universal joints ~~(11)~~ comprises an outer joint part ~~(12)~~ with first ball tracks ~~(14)~~ which form first angles of intersection with the joint axis ~~(A)~~, an inner joint part ~~(17)~~ with second ball tracks ~~(18)~~ which form second angles of intersection with the joint axis ~~(A)~~, balls ~~(19)~~ which run in pairs of tracks comprising a first ball track ~~(14)~~ and a second ball track ~~(18)~~, and a first cage ~~(20)~~ which holds the balls ~~(19)~~ in a common plane ~~(E)~~, wherein the first and second angles of intersection of the ball tracks ~~(14, 18)~~ of a pair of tracks each are identical in size and are positioned symmetrically relative to the joint axis ~~(A)~~ and wherein the first ball cage ~~(20)~~ is axially fixed in the constant velocity joint;

the intermediate shaft comprises a longitudinal plunging unit ~~(41)~~ having a sleeve ~~(42)~~ with first ball grooves ~~(43)~~ which extend axially, a journal ~~(44)~~ with second ball grooves ~~(45)~~ which extend axially, balls ~~(46)~~ which are held in groups in pairs of grooves each comprising a first ball groove ~~(43)~~ and a second ball groove ~~(45)~~, and a second cage ~~(47)~~ which holds the balls ~~(46)~~ at a fixed distance from one another, and wherein at least one of the first ball cage or the outer joint part include an inner cylindrical guiding face.

2. (currently amended) A driveshaft according to claim 1, wherein the first ball cage ~~(20)~~ comprises an inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(31)~~ in which the inner joint part ~~(17)~~ is held radially, and a spherical outer face ~~(39)~~ which is held axially and radially between first and second annular stop faces ~~(26, 27)~~ of the outer joint part ~~(12)~~.

3. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 1, wherein the ball cage ~~(20)~~ comprises an inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(31)~~ in which the inner joint part ~~(17)~~ is held radially, and a spherical outer face ~~(39)~~ which is held radially in an inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(25)~~ of the outer joint part ~~(12)~~, wherein the inner joint part ~~(17)~~ is supported in a first direction ~~(R1)~~ on an annular stop face ~~(32)~~ in the ball

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cage and wherein the ball cage ~~(20)~~ is supported in a second axial direction ~~(R2)~~ on a second annular stop face ~~(27)~~ in the outer joint part ~~(12)~~.

4. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 1, wherein the ball cage ~~(20)~~ comprises an inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(31)~~ in which the inner joint part ~~(17)~~ is held radially, and a spherical outer face ~~(39)~~ which is held radially in an inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(25)~~ of the outer joint part ~~(12)~~, wherein the ball cage is supported in a first axial direction ~~(R1)~~ on a first annular stop face ~~(26)~~ in the outer joint part ~~(12)~~ and wherein the inner joint part ~~(17)~~ is supported in a second axial direction ~~(R2)~~ on a second annular stop face ~~(33)~~ in the ball cage ~~(20)~~.

5. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 1, wherein the ball cage ~~(20)~~ comprises an inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(31)~~ in which the inner joint part ~~(17)~~ is held radially, and a spherical outer face ~~(39)~~ which is held radially in an inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(25)~~ of the outer joint part ~~(12)~~, wherein the inner joint part ~~(17)~~ is supported in a first axial direction ~~(R1)~~ on an annular stop face ~~(32)~~ in the ball cage and in a second axial direction ~~(R2)~~ on a radial end face ~~(36)~~ of the outer joint part ~~(12)~~.

6. (currently amended) A driveshaft according to claim 2, wherein the outer joint part ~~(12)~~ comprises an annular part ~~(13)~~ forming the first stop face ~~(26)~~ and an inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(25)~~ for supporting an outer face of the first ball cage ~~(20)~~, and a base part ~~(15)~~ in which there is formed the second stop face ~~(27)~~.

7. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 6, wherein the base part ~~(15)~~ is a plate metal cover ~~(29)~~.

8. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 2, wherein the outer joint part ~~(12)~~ comprises an annular part ~~(13)~~ in which there is formed an inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(25)~~ for supporting an outer face of the ball cage ~~(20)~~, an attaching cap ~~(16)~~ in which there is formed the first stop face ~~(26)~~, and a base part ~~(15)~~ in which there is formed the second stop face ~~(27)~~.

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9. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 8, wherein the base part ~~(15)~~ is a plate metal cover ~~(29)~~.

10. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 3, wherein the outer joint part ~~(12)~~ comprises an annular part ~~(13)~~ in which there is formed the inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(25)~~, and a base part ~~(15)~~ in which there is formed the second stop face ~~(27)~~.

11. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 4, wherein the outer joint part ~~(12)~~ comprises an annular part ~~(13)~~ in which there is formed the inner cylindrical guiding face ~~(25)~~, and an attaching cap ~~(16)~~ in which there is formed the first stop face ~~(26)~~.

12. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 2, wherein the inner joint part ~~(17)~~ comprises a spherical outer face ~~(28)~~.

13. (currently amended) A driveshaft according to claim 2, wherein an outer face of the inner joint part comprises a spherical portion ~~(28)~~ and two conical end regions ~~(37, 38)~~.

14. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 1, wherein the journal ~~(44)~~ and inner joint part ~~(17)~~ are integrally formed.

15. (currently amended) A driveshaft according to claim 1, wherein the journal ~~(44)~~ is hollow.

16. (currently amended) A driveshaft according to claim 15, wherein the journal ~~(44)~~ is fixed to the inner joint part ~~(17)~~ by friction welding.

17. (currently amended-rejoined) A driveshaft according to claim 5, wherein the inner joint part ~~(17)~~ includes a central stop member ~~(35)~~ for acting against the radial end face ~~(36)~~ of the outer joint part ~~(12)~~.